

allow companies to own three television stations in some markets and would do away with a 28-year ban on companies owning both a newspaper and a TV station in the same market.

What is perhaps more egregious is the secretive process through which these changes have been considered. The FCC tried to keep the plan's details secret and refused to have more than one, barely publicized hearing on the issue. FCC Chairman Michael Powell has rejected requests from two of his own commission members to delay the vote for more public comment.

Fortunately, even though this issue got relatively little media coverage, the American public has taken action. Progressive and conservative interest groups, artists and 200 communications academics have protested the new rules. Of the 9,000 e-mails the FCC has received on the issue, only 11 supported relaxing the rules. I, along with 100 of my colleagues in Congress, recently wrote to Chairman Powell expressing our opposition to the proposed rules. Unfortunately, the FCC is not listening.

Owners of media outlets are obliged to serve the public interest—not just their own financial interests. Our Founding Fathers created this democracy to give us the right to debate ideas openly and make informed choices. If these changes go into effect, a few huge, powerful corporations could gobble up even more media outlets to control most of the news we get.

Be grateful that today you had the opportunity to read about these proposed changes, supported by the powerful media conglomerates. If they have their way, the next time the FCC decides to change the rules, you may not be informed at all.

Mr. FOSSELLA. Madam Speaker, I want to take a minute to discuss an issue that is very important to many men and women in my district and to the men and women working in the telecommunications industry.

The FCC is preparing for a release of their Triennial Review of the UNE-P and I want to weigh in with my colleagues as to the fundamentals of how the UNE-P pricing model works, or as I see it, doesn't work.

Suppose you, an entrepreneur, go in to manufacture candy bars and you invest significant capital to create this wonderful factory and generate candy bars. You operate for 30 years, during which you must buy new equipment, and maintain that equipment. The bottom line of your costs is say, \$.75. You determine to sell them in the retail market for \$1. Then you discover that there is a regulatory body empowered by the Congress that regulates candy bars and one of their missions is to promote competition. One day, these regulators come to you and they say, "You know what? We think since you're the largest candy bar manufacturer, you should have a competitor. And we have someone that we want to be your competitor." Then the regulators tell you one way in which they've determined to promote competition is for you to allow this competitor to sell your product from your machinery and buildings at \$.75 or in some cases less than \$.75, so they in turn can resell it in the market for a profit to them, and a loss to your company.

All the money you just spent to build a building which stores the machinery you use to make your product, package your product, distribute you're product, and maintain all of this, is used to provide a product to your competitor for the same price or less of a price that it costs you, only they don't have any risk.

I pose the question to the regulators and my colleagues. What would you do as CEO of this candy bar company, what do you feel is the right thing to do? I see it to be wrong and think the regulators should take steps to mitigate this wrong or change it while they still have a chance.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SANDERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of my Special Order this evening.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HARRIS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Vermont?

There was no objection.

□ 2215

PRESERVING AND PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, it is interesting to review the ebb and flow of the political tides, as we have had here this evening, where we here on Capitol Hill deal with the ebb and flow of various political crises, whether it is the struggle against global terrorism, whether it is the battle of the economy, budgets and tax cuts, where the economy is hopefully a short-term problem, where the perversion of tax and budget priorities hopefully is temporary in nature, and it is, after all, within our power to change priorities to adjust tax rates and make infrastructure investments.

There is, Madam Speaker, however, a greater battle, and one over which, if we are not careful, we may not be able to exercise such control. I am speaking, of course, of the struggle to preserve and protect our environment, because we are watching the slow, relentless poisoning of air and water, the destruction of habitat, which puts millions of people at risk on a daily basis and inflicts permanent damage.

The World Health Organization, for example, suggests that water-borne diseases kill at least 3.5 million people every year. That is more than three times as many people who were lost in the World Trade Center, who die every day, 365 days a year. It is within our power, our capacity, to do something about it.

It was my privilege to be in South Africa last fall as the world came together, the largest United Nations conference in history, making commitments to what we were going to do to try and make changes like that to protect the environment. I watched as the United States joined with over 104 other heads of state, 194 countries in all, to make commitments, for instance, that over 1 million people who

do not have access to clean drinking water, we would cut that amount in half in the next 15 years.

I think a number of people felt uncomfortable with that, thinking about how many people would be sentenced to unnecessary death and disease, but it was an important goal. But that goal suggests that we are going to provide, even that modest goal, 211,000 people per day, clean drinking water who do not have it, in order to reach that 15-year goal of just cutting it in half. It is an example of these threats that we face to the environment.

I would like to reflect for a few moments this evening about what we are doing dealing with these two great global threats.

We have focused our attention on the greater environment in terms of the atmosphere and our oceans. Fifty years ago space was our proxy in a struggle against communism. Ten years later, we had the Stratton Commission, ushering in a new era for the space under our oceans' surfaces. We have spent billions of dollars trying to penetrate deep space, a somewhat lesser amount dealing with our oceans, while we as a planet continue to affect weather patterns, affect global climate change, global warming and disease.

Madam Speaker, I think it is important for us to be able to focus on what we can do to make a difference in those areas.

I have often on this floor dealt with issues dealing with global warming. The scientific consensus is agreed to, although it is slow in dawning on Members of Congress, and our policies do not yet reflect it. But when you deal with objective members of science, 15 years ago what was a debatable proposition that we were affecting the Earth's climate in cataclysmic ways, now the vast scientific consensus, including the commission that wrote the report from the National Academy of Sciences 2 years ago requested by President Bush, confirms that we now know that global warming and this climate change is a reality; that it is, in all likelihood, a world where our children will inherit a Glacier National Park with no glaciers, indeed, no glaciers at all in the continental United States.

The sudden occurrence of open water at the North Pole for the first time in recorded history is now being followed by evidence of rapid melting of the polar areas, and we face consequences like the extinction of polar bears within our children's lifetime.

But the problems are not just with trophy species and signature landmarks like mountain glaciers. We are changing the envelope, as Professor Holden, Director of the Program on Science and Technology and Public Policy at Harvard University, expresses it, the envelope in which all other environmental conditions and processes operate.

It will be impacting the productivity of our farms, our forests and fisheries,

the livability of our cities in summer, and damages from storms, floods and wildfires. People in States like yours, Madam Speaker, are going to be experiencing dramatic changes as sea levels increase, as issues that relate to the Everglades, something we have all come together to try and do something about, become more acute, because of what we are doing to the global climate, the issue of sudden weather events.

Those who follow the news are intrigued, I think, that on a regular basis now there are recordings not just of hurricanes and tornadoes, storm surges and floods, but the descriptions of these items: in Australia this last year, the worst drought; flooding in Morocco, the worst in a third of a century; the severe storms that we have had across the United States, in the Carolinas and the Northeast this last year; 6 inches of rain that fell on Central Park last December, more than double the amount of rain recorded through all the prior winter.

Time and time again we are watching these occurrences that are of catastrophic proportions. And what we are finding from our friends in the scientific community is that this is a small taste of one of the most serious consequences of global warming; that these sudden, unpredictable, disruptive and terrifying events are going to be predictable in terms of their occurrence, and nobody is going to be safe; the disruption of the food supply chain, habitats that are going to be migrating north, shifting patterns of wealth, sustainability, all subjected to more uncertainty.

We are going to have people living in harm's way in flood plains, whether it is in Florida, in Manhattan, in Bangladesh, that is going to test and best the ability of people to adapt. And tragically, it is going to be those people in the poorest areas of the world that are going to pay the highest price, have the greatest difficulty in adapting.

There are things within our power to start making some modest adjustments. I will be working in this next month, hopefully, we will be able to have brought to the floor of this Chamber some modification of flood insurance, something that the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and I have been working on for years, where we have an un-actuarially sound program that subsidizes people to live in areas where God repeatedly shows they are not wanted, putting them in harm's way, concentrating almost 40 percent of our payments to 2 percent of repetitive flood losses.

A simple adjustment is something that will send the right signals to people to modify their behavior, to move out of harm's way, to save money, to save lives, and to start making adjustments before global warming makes that problem even worse.

There are special responsibilities for the United States as both the wealth-

est Nation and the largest polluter in terms of greenhouse gasses to step forward and do something about it.

Well, we have been less than totally successful, one must admit. We have walked away from not only the Kyoto Treaty, but any opportunity for the United States to assume leadership by offering an alternative, to step forward if we do not like the treaty, to be able to indicate what we can do to enter into partnership with countries like China and India.

It is not acceptable to just simply say, Well, these people are going to have to step forward and change their lifestyles before we as the richest, most powerful Nation and the biggest polluter, is willing to do anything. Because they are, although massive in population, they are in fact dealing with significant greenhouse gas emissions now. They are on a trajectory, Madam Speaker; if we do not, as a world, work together to be able to reduce them, if they follow the pattern of development of the United States, China and India have the potential in a short period, a few short years, of having a devastating impact on the world's climate. The world cannot sustain the United States, China and India all following this very destructive pattern.

But it is in the area of protection of our oceans that I find some interesting optimism in the midst of some depressing news. We have all witnessed in recent days studies, for example, the Canadian Study in Nature, that talks about what has happened with our fisheries around the world, where we have destroyed 90 percent of the trophy fish since the 1950s, only 10 percent of the populations of tuna, swordfish, marlin and other prize species remain in the ocean; that we have created a dead zone at the mouth of the Mississippi River now, every year, that has grown. When I first came to Congress, it was only the size of Rhode Island. Now, in less than a decade, it is larger than the State of Massachusetts, with devastating impact for the fisheries in the Gulf area.

Time and time again we look at these dangerous signals that are an important wake-up call to those of us who care about the world's environment.

It has been my privilege since I have been in Congress to understand the scope, direction and nature of these threats to our oceans. I have been privileged to work with my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR), who was the driving force behind the first Oceans Conference, a gentleman who has been active in creating marine sanctuaries, who has been focusing on the fact that we spend eight times more studying space, which is interesting and has positive aspects, but only one-eighth of that expenditure is spent on our oceans, upon which our climate and our very existence depends; and as the gentleman is fond of pointing out, that a lot of this research that is attributed to NOAA and oceans is actually atmospheric study of the weather.

I am privileged to note that the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR) is with us here this evening for a discussion of how we can focus on opportunities dealing with our oceans.

□ 2230

I am particularly honored that he would join with me in the discussion this evening, because, as he is well aware, in fact his predecessor is Chair of a commission, the Pew Oceans Commission, that is the first comprehensive study of oceans policy of the United States and its global implications in over one-third of a century.

I am honored that the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR) is here. I am privileged to work with the gentleman. I deeply appreciate the gentleman's leadership and insight here in Congress, perhaps one of the strongest, if not the strongest, at least in the House, as it deals with oceans policy and its consequences for our future.

I welcome the opportunity to yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR) for his thoughts and observations.

Mr. FARR. I thank the gentleman for his kind words and for yielding to me. I am delighted to be here.

I think in light of tonight's discussions, which really have wonderful populist appeal about issues of drug sales in America and about the practices of licensing telecommunications in this country, it is also appropriate that we focus a little bit on the politics, the big politics of the oceans, that is, that the meeting of land and water, of the two massive forces on Earth, takes place in coastal zones. Coastal zones are also where most of the people live, that is, where most of the voters are, most of the taxes are raised. That is where we find the most U.S. population, on the coast, which comprises about 17 percent of our entire land mass.

We also find that people are moving to coastal areas faster than any other place. There is an increase of about 3,600 people a day that move to the coastlines.

I think coastlines are also important from an economic standpoint if we think about that is where fishermen make their living, that is where tourism attracts people to swim in the oceans. The largest recreational areas in the United States are the publicly owned beaches of this country.

It is clear that the public takes special interest in our oceans; and as we have learned from our colleagues, even the inland colleagues in inland States, people in their districts think of oceans because they think of them as they consume seafood, and as places they would like to visit on their vacations, to go to the beach.

What do we do in Congress, because we understand that there are real problems with the oceans, not just ours alone but internationally, as well? In a recent report in the journal *Nature*, it stated that 90 percent of the large predatory fish are gone from the oceans totally, globally, all over the world.

Overfishing has led to fishery closures for rockfish on the west coast and groundfish on the east coast.

We find that because we have not really effectively monitored or stopped the toxic pollutants that come in from just runoff, where it rains on the land and that rain runs through agricultural land, it runs through parking lots, it runs through streets; and whatever is on those streets, what they call trace metals and pesticides, ends up going into the rivers and then down into the oceans, therefore affecting marine systems.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. If the gentleman would let me add for one moment on that precise point, the recent study from the National Academy of Sciences estimates that that runoff the gentleman talks about from our driveways, our parking lots and our roads, these oils, solvents that wash into our rivers, estuaries, and oceans are the equivalent of one *Exxon Valdez* every 8 months, almost 11 million gallons of oil and gasoline in the course of a year, an *Exxon Valdez* and a half every year.

Mr. FARR. It is more difficult to trace than the *Exxon Valdez*, which was essentially one spot, a big contamination. These are subtle contaminations. But these contaminations are not just chemicals.

We have a way of transporting nature. Certainly we have learned about that recently with the way to transport virus, with SARS originating in China ending up affecting us in Toronto and other cities around the world.

The San Francisco Bay now has 175 nonnative marine species living in San Francisco Bay brought in by the ships that travel the oceans far and wide. Despite all these indicators that show that the marine ecosystems are unhealthy today, the question is, well, can we save them? Has it gone beyond repair?

The gentleman and I know that we have certainly laws that govern our coastlines and oceans; but those laws, as the gentleman said, are outdated. It is time to focus anew.

Fortunately, Congress has taken action to do that by creating a commission. With a bill that I authored with Senator HOLLINGS in the Senate that President Clinton signed, and it went into effect when President Bush took office, President Bush appointed the commissioners. They are about to finish their work and give us a report sometime this fall.

As the gentleman mentioned, there is a separate commission appointed by the Pew Charitable Trust, which my friend and predecessor here in Congress, Leon Panetta, has been chairing when Christy Todd Whitman, the former Chair, went to work for the Bush administration as head of EPA. So we have both of these commissions coming to Congress with really strong recommendations on how we need to update our Nation's marine policies.

So the body of science, the body of politics, by the fact that the commis-

sioners are from all walks of life that relate to the oceans, from the oil interests to the fishing interests to the museum and science interests, they have all been represented; and they all bring a constituency to the plate that is going to deliver these reports.

June 4, on Wednesday, the privately funded Pew Commission will make its report available to the public. Then sometime later in the year the Commission on Ocean Policy will produce its report.

I anticipate that both commissions will have recommendations that we as Members of Congress, recommendations that, as lawmakers, we can incorporate into legislation and change our ocean policy so that indeed we can have a sustainable ocean policy. I think the gentleman more than most Members, and probably more than anyone, really understands the proportionality of sustainability.

I think that word is used so often as to sort of guarantee success, but it is really one of compromise. Essentially, we do not cut out the economic interests in fishing. We more balance them so they can be sustained over time. It is not just, take it all right now and leave nothing for our children or generations ahead.

The whole idea of how we develop these balancing systems is very controversial, because we do have to regulate people that have never been regulated before, or we have to tell people they cannot fish in certain areas that they have been able to fish in without restrictions.

So this is more what they call an ecosystem-based management. We understand a little bit about ecosystems on land. We do not call them that; we call them zoning. We call them master planning for our communities; essentially, where do we want people to live in houses, where do we want the industrial area to be, where do we want to keep it an open space, where we should not go building because of hazardous conditions such as floodplain zones or earthquake zones and so on.

I think we are getting to a point, and I would love to hear the gentleman's reflection on it, that we really need to master-plan our oceans around these ecosystems and around avoiding conflicts of the sea.

We have seen in California, and Maine as well, where we had, before regulation, people who would make their living setting out crab pots or lobster pots at the same place people were dragging for seismic information for oil companies. They would catch the lines of the lobster pots or crab pots and pull them up, and so destroy the income of one fisherperson for the advantage of someone else who was also interested in a resource from the ocean. That is what I call the conflicts of sea. We just need to make sure we understand what people want to do and how they want to use the ocean, and make the regulations so they can use it wisely.

I would really respect the gentleman's thoughts on those issues, because I think the gentleman has been very involved with the city of Portland. As I remember as a young adult studying in Oregon in undergraduate studies and visiting Portland, it was then, to use a phrase we used at home, a city known by its smell. We used to say that about Monterey because of all the canneries. In Portland, you had all of the wood pulp industries and the Willamette River.

We go to Portland today and it is certainly one of the most beautiful cities in America, and one of the best-managed from a transportation standpoint, from a livability standpoint. As far as aesthetics and trees, it is really an example of what we can do with leadership in providing a turnaround in an area. If we can do that for cities in America, we certainly can do it for oceans and nearby communities, near-shore communities under the sea.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I think the gentleman is absolutely correct, Madam Speaker, in dealing with the analogy to some of our successes on the land and some of our failures.

Sadly, the Stratton Commission in the late 1960s offered up a vision of how we manage the sea that was more of one of exploitation: how did we extract the bounty of the ocean and not deal with the fragility of resources, the finite nature, the impact of technology and mechanization and of many countries industrializing this extraction, instead of it being a small family enterprise, like happened in the beautiful coastal area that the gentleman represents in California, the fisheries that we have seen in the Southwest, in the Northeast as well; the impact of industrialized fishing, for instance.

We need to look at some of our successes, and understanding that we have to balance interests, that we have to look at competing pressures, that we can work together in a cooperative and thoughtful fashion to be able to make sure that everybody is actually better off.

There are certain areas of our land area, one could think that the way that some people howl about wilderness, we would think that most of the United States is off limits; but as the gentleman and I know, it is only about 5 percent, but it is a critical 5 percent.

Mr. FARR. Even then it is not off limits to people who want to access it on foot rather than by motor vehicle.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Absolutely. But what the gentleman has done in his own career in terms of dealing with issues of marine sanctuaries and marine reserves, we need to be able to make sure that there are some areas where the sea can rest, the fisheries can be restored, much like we do with farmland, where, in some of the areas where I think people are justly proud, we have been conserving some of our farmland. We are being able to zone and protect it. We are looking at ways to revitalize it, working with scientists

and with farmers, with citizens. This is part of what needs to happen.

The gentleman went through some of the list of problems that we are facing, like nonpoint pollution. We have problems with point source pollution, like the massive hog farms that we see in some of our coastal States and along some of our major river systems that dump effluent into our waterways.

He has referenced the issue of invasive species. There are problems of aquaculture. If we are not careful, aquaculture will end up, or if it is not done appropriately, it can produce a great deal of not just pollution, but the potential, for example, where we have had areas where there have been tens of thousands of farm-bred salmon escaping into the ocean.

We have had situations where coastal development, where it is not done in a thoughtful and careful way, severely damages fragile bays and estuaries and river habitat, which are important nesting and breeding grounds. It is where fishing stock is restored. It purifies water. We alter that habitat.

Mr. FARR. We have also shown, though, that where we have degraded that habitat to such a point where all known life forms have failed in those systems, they have gotten so polluted, some of those streams, but with good management techniques we have brought those streams back and made them clean; and they now have vibrant fish life.

The point is, we can turn this around. But when we are dealing with the entire ocean, we just cannot turn that around over time. If we have indeed taken all the large species, commercial species on the planet, it is going to take a long time of not fishing some of those species to allow them, the babies, to grow up to be big adults. Some of these fish live for over 100 years, so it is going to be, some places where we set up these marine reserves, we are going to have to put them off limits for fishing for a long time.

On the other hand, when we do clean up areas and set these reserves, they allow this sort of abundance to return; fish do not know where those boundary lines are. They hang out outside the boundary lines. Then that becomes an opportunity for the commercial activity to be done.

We have in our area a national marine estuary, the largest in California, known as the Elkhorn Slough. Right next to the Elkhorn Slough is one of the largest power plants in California, a Duke Energy gas-fired natural gas plant which used to burn oil and now burns natural gas.

That big industrial complex has worked out a management system with this fragile ecosystem so they can be co-partners in the sustainability of the ecosystem, not one preventing the other from happening.

□ 2245

It is a partnership that has been worked out and is constantly being up-

dated as a sound management practice. Those are the kinds of examples I would like to set because I think so often people hear that if there is a problem, we are just going to shut down somebody or people are going to lose their jobs if we go about this. And I think what the reports are going to say is that this does not have to be a lose-lose or win-lose; it can be a win-win.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I think the gentleman's point is compelling. He has seen examples of cooperative action with fisheries' interests in the State of California. We have seen in the Pacific Northwest, particularly in Alaska, there are some pretty good examples of where these independent fisher-people have been able to work together in a cooperative fashion with the scientists, with government, to be able to make a difference.

The ocean can heal. Fishing stocks can be replenished. We saw what happened to the North Atlantic fishing stocks during World War II. Sadly, it was a war that disrupted the fishing, but the fish nonetheless came back under a combination of thoughtful policies, reducing the catch, managing the resource, having areas that are protected; and the United States controls more surface area of oceans in terms of our zone of influence than any other country in the world. It is a half again larger than the entire surface area of the United States.

It is a tremendous opportunity to strategically allow these species to recover.

Mr. FARR. Let me elaborate a little bit on that. By treaty, we have created the special economic zones, and these economic zones on the oceans go out from the shoreline 200 miles; and why the United States, more than any other country in the world, has larger EEZ is because we have in our territory, in our trust islands in the Pacific, we are all very much aware of Guam and the Hawaiian Islands, but we go through the Marshall Islands and American Samoa, and each one of those islands having a 200-mile radius makes the United States interests in the ocean even greater than any other country in the world.

This is where I think we have to provide leadership in being able to provide these ecosystem-based management plans, and in order to do that, it is going to take an act of Congress. It is going to take new laws in this country.

As we stand here tonight, we are probably at one of the best moments in recent history to be able to have all this scientific knowledge flowing to us. With the release of the Pew report and the commission's report later on this year, Congress will be better informed on what it should do, what it needs to do more than ever before in history.

My hope is that we, in a bipartisan way, because certainly I do not think we need to have partisan fights about it. We had a lot of discussion here sort of on the takings issue on land owner-

ship and whose responsibility it is, whether the government has a right to go onto someone's land to understand what kind of species or wildlife are living on their land. That does not happen in the oceans. The oceans are not owned privately. There are certainly not real estate developments in the ocean, other than oil leases, and those are leases from the Federal Government. So we are the manager.

It seems to me that we, in a collective way, can really provide not only a future for this planet, which breathes from the ocean, and where weather is all initiated in the ocean, but also provide a healthy management system so that our children and grandchildren can enjoy not only the oceans and the bounty of the seas, but also have health and safety, a life of being able to go to beaches that are safe and so on.

This is our responsibility. We are the trustees elected to develop the Federal law, given that trust by our voters and, I think, by the world, by the fact that we have so much of the ocean at stake, to really do sound management; and hopefully, we will take the recommendations of the Pew Foundation and the government commission and put them into law this year. Hopefully, the administration will enthusiastically support those recommendations and help us lobby them through Congress.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I appreciate the gentleman's observation, and I think he is correct. We can sit here and talk in ominous tones about some of the very negative things that have occurred, and it truly is disturbing, but there is better information, greater awareness.

We have the United States population concentrated in the coastal areas in a way that we have not seen since the founding of the republic.

The gentleman mentioned some of the work of the Pew Oceans Commission. It is not just the report that is coming forth in the next 36 hours, but there are some fantastic science reports that the commission has contracted with a distinguished group of scientists and expects to write reports outlining some of the major threats to coastal and ocean resources, offering recommendations for addressing the threats from the perspective of science, the professionals, to assist their own commissioners in forming this report to help the Bush administration and Congress meet its responsibilities.

I had a chance to review, as I know the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR) has, the materials, Managing Marine Fisheries in the United States; Ecological Effects of Fishing in Marine Ecosystems; Marine Reserves, a powerful tool for ecosystem management and conservation from a professor at Stanford University. They have dealt with, in a realistic way, the best report I have seen, on marine pollution, both accomplishments and future challenges, an area that the gentleman and

I have been working on in our own respective spheres of influence now for over 20 years, dealing with coastal sprawl, the impact that urban design has on aquatic ecosystems in our country.

The gentleman has been a champion, I know, in terms of the California Coastal Conservation Commission, the work that he has done as a local county commissioner, as a legislator and here in Congress; and then there is great research on invasive species and the impact of marine aquaculture, looking at the environmental impacts and policy options.

Having these reports available to us to go along with the two commissions, the work here in Congress and, most important, to be able to raise the awareness of the public, he is 200 percent correct. The ocean belongs to us all. No single person owns those rights. It is truly an international problem, but the United States has the greatest leverage. Not only are we the richest Nation, but we have more control over oceans than any other country. It cries out for that sort of cooperative solution.

Mr. FARR. That interesting, cooperative solution is done by, in congratulations to the gentleman as a representative from Oregon, that the Oregon State University, along with the University of California in Santa Cruz, that is in my District; the Long Marine Lab, that is in my District; the Hopkins Marine Lab which is my district; and the University of California at Santa Barbara; and Stanford University are all participating in this consortium known as the Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans, and in fact, they call themselves PISCO, and I understand they have a Web site. It is a pretty easy one. It is just www.piscoweb.org, and those publications are put up on that Web site as they come out.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Truly phenomenal resources for individual citizens or policy-makers that want to be able to understand what these challenges are.

The gentleman referenced the outstanding program at Oregon State University. Dr. Jane Lubchenco is one of the members of the Pew Commission who will be with us here in Washington, D.C., this week, not only with the announcement of the Pew Report and with our friend Leon Panetta, the Chair, but will be meeting with men and women here on Capitol Hill.

The approach is simple: Deal with the information that is available to us; change the philosophy from one of exploitation which, sadly, we have not been able for a variety of forces to do something on public lands in this country. Sadly, the Mining Act of 1872 exists virtually identically to the bill that was signed into law by President Ulysses S. Grant 131 years ago. This is an opportunity for us to move past that, changing the philosophy from one of exploitation to one of conservation and protection.

To be able to reduce the pressures on fisheries and environment, these are things that are within our power. We do not have to wait. What just happened in Canada where the cod fisheries collapsed and they had to stop all fishing because it got to the point where they had verged on destroying the species. It does not have to get to that point.

Being able to focus on protection of coastal areas, and in many cases what we need to do to protect those estuaries, those rivers, those beach fronts are exactly the same thing that our communities are crying out for to protect against sprawl, congestion, bad air and loss of open space. So we will be able to satisfy the needs of the ocean by listening to our constituents right now.

Being able to make the marine sanctuaries, which really are not sanctuaries, transform them into real reserves and connect them in a system so that the fish can migrate from one to another, and as the gentleman mentioned a moment ago, very important, the fish do not recognize the boundaries. So, in effect, we will be reseeding the oceans.

Finally, a commitment of the United States to international leadership. Maybe we can start by ratifying the convention of the oceans.

Mr. FARR. Treaty of the seas, law of the seas, something our Navy is very interested in having ratified. The Senate failed to do that many years ago. I have suggested that the Senate ought to revisit that, particularly with the Navy's interest in it, and hopefully we can get it ratified so that we can be a partner with all the other coastal nations around the world.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Could the gentleman comment on the significance of our failure to have ratified this 210 years ago?

Mr. FARR. I think what happens now, according to a spokesperson for the Navy that I talked to several years ago, was that we have dozens of Navy research vessels which are owned and operated by the Navy, but the operators are mostly contract marine scientists, marine biologists who go out and do the deep ocean exploration and near shore exploration. When we go into these economic zones of other countries we have to go there with their permission. These are military vessels, and without signing a law of the sea, we have no protocols for, if a country decides, well, we think you are spying on us or we think we do not like the work you are doing or you are not sharing it with us enough.

There are always efforts to do that, but nonetheless, if there is a problem, we have no way of getting out of the problem because we are not a signatory to the treaty which lays out a protocol for what we can and cannot do with these research vessels, and that, if indeed there is a question, how we can resolve those disputes.

So we could conceivably get into a military situation because of a seizing

of one of our research vessels which has nothing but scientists aboard, and that should be avoided. We need to sign the law treaty as soon as possible.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I appreciate that explanation and the gentleman's continued leadership. As one of the co-chairs of the coastal caucus.

Mr. FARR. The Oceans Caucus.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. The Oceans Caucus.

Mr. FARR. Quite all right. Coastal caucus is just as well.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. It was some of my colleagues, particularly providing coastal leadership, I get confused, I apologize, but bringing this to the forefront. I appreciate the gentleman's career-long commitment to being able to protect these treasures.

Mr. FARR. Let me say something. I think that before our lifetimes are over we are going to see the ability to rent a vehicle where a person can drive under the sea. They can drive in the sea.

□ 2300

And that will really open up this massive amount of territory on this planet to people who have never been able to see it before.

The technology of getting people down in the water is merging at a very fast rate. Remember, it is much more difficult to go deep than it is to go high. When you go into outer space, you are just going from zero atmospheric pressure, from 14 pounds atmospheric pressure to zero. When you are going down, it gets harder and harder. And as you have seen, when these researchers have put a little Styrofoam coffee cup with your name on it and put it out in those research vessels, it comes back literally the size of a thimble. That is what the pressure is. So it is much more difficult to get down into the ocean. But they are developing technology where you can go down to 4,000 feet in civilian clothes without a lot of training to essentially allow people who are not scientists to be able to get access to the oceans.

We need underwater artists, we need poets, we need music writers, we need the rest of society to be able to explore the oceans, as well as our marine scientists; and so I thank the gentleman for his leadership in scheduling this Special Order tonight and for inviting me to speak.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I was going to give the gentleman one last word, if I might, because the gentleman wears another hat here in Congress. Well, actually he wears a number of them, but one I know he has spent a lot of time on is the Travel and Tourism Caucus. The gentleman co-chairs this with the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY), and the two of you have a commitment, in part I think because your two States have economies that are dramatically impacted by tourism, and I wondered if the gentleman wanted to just make one brief comment about the connection. I know it sounds

a little crass, but we are suffering some difficult economic times now.

Mr. FARR. What is interesting about tourism is, why do people go into the outdoors? It is really to experience the outdoors. And how is that? It is not just the beautiful shapes of mountains and trees and natural forms; it is also the wildlife.

We were able to successfully recover a sea otter herd. The sea otter was thought to be extinct. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, a marine scientist discovered them off Big Sur, kept them a secret, because there were no laws in place to protect them; but now that they have been protected by Federal law, the sea otter population has come back. It has, unfortunately, had some setbacks this year with disease, and perhaps with too many boats in the habitat; but that sea otter population on the California coastline is now a multimillion dollar industry, watching sea otters. And who makes money off of that? Certainly they do not. But people who make T-shirts, who make mugs, who make jewelry, who take photographs, who provide boat trips, who do interpretive studies.

The point is that the wildlife can be one of our most viable economic industries if we manage it well. And that is what this is all about; it is trying to have a planet. Here we are discussing so much of how do the people on this globe get along, but the people cannot survive on this globe without nature getting along and at least us understanding how not to just take from nature but also to give back and to manage appropriately so that we can have sustainable oceans, sustainable lands, and hopefully sustainable populations of people that will get along living in peace and being able to enjoy this planet. I think that is what this is all about.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's eloquence. I think that says it all.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to spend a few minutes focusing on what is going to be a big week here on Capitol Hill, focusing on this unique opportunity to deal with the attention that it deserves to protect our oceans, to be able to bring people together across the country, different philosophies, different geographies, different political parties to understand the opportunities to protect our quality of life. By doing the things we need to do on the land and in terms of our habits under the sea, we can restore the vibrance of our fisheries, and we can protect the quality of the tourist experience. We can have the regenerative power of these waterways, and we can make sure that we flex some of our problem-solving muscles that can help us in the international arena and here at home on larger issues of war and peace and climate change.

So I appreciate the opportunity to share this information this evening.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of personal reasons.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official business in the district.

Ms. KILPATRICK (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of family illness.

Mr. McNULTY (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and until 4:00 p.m. June 3 on account of personal reasons.

Mr. ORTIZ (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official business in the district.

Mr. REYES (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official business.

Mr. SMITH of Washington (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of personal matters.

Mr. BEREUTER (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of official business.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of the birth of Charles Wilson Ryan on May 30, 2003.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. EMANUEL) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. DELAURO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HINCHEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. McDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LAMPSON, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GUTKNECHT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELLER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, June 3, 4, and 5.

Mr. SIMMONS, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at her own request) to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WATSON, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills and concurrent resolutions of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 858. An act to extend the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Government Reform.

S. 878. An act to authorize an additional permanent judgeship in the district of Idaho, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. Con. Res. 7. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the sharp escalation of anti-Semitic violence within many participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) is of profound concern and efforts should be undertaken to prevent future occurrences; to the Committee on International Relations.

S. Con. Res. 43. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Congress should participate in and support activities to provide decent homes for the people of the United States; to the Committee on Financial Services.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 2. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2004.

H.R. 2185. An act to extend the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002.

H.J. Res. 51. Joint resolution increasing the statutory limit on the public debt.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House reports that on May 23, 2003 he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.J. Res. 51. Increasing the statutory limit on the public debt.

H.R. 2. To provide the reconciliation pursuant to section 201 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2004.

H.R. 1298. To provide assistance to foreign countries to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2185. To extend the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 3, 2003, at 10:30 a.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows: